21

Claims

1.   An apparatus comprising visual display means, processing means, storage means and memory means; wherein said memory means is configured to store program instructions for updating data in a database, having persistent copies of objects that control processing steps, wherein

a database application makes modifications to transient copies of said persistent objects;

a database thread generates database transaction requests in response to said modifications; and

said requests are processed at a lower priority than said modifications.

2.   An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said database is stored locally or distributed over a network to remote nodes;

3.   An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said database is transaction-oriented;

4.   An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said database thread includes an object cache manager;

5.   An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said object cache manager creates said transient copies in a transient object cache according to permission from a Permit Manager;
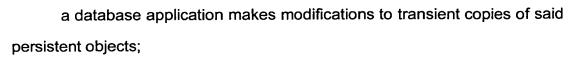
22

6.   An apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein said modifications to transient copies of said persistent objects are amendments implemented locally or remotely on said transient copies;

5   7.   An apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein transient objects are stored in the main memory of a local or remote database client system or a plurality thereof;

8.   An apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein said database

10   thread is a low priority thread;

9.   An apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein said object cache manager queues transactions corresponding to amendments of said transient copies in a database request queue as transaction requests;

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10.   An apparatus according to claim **9**, wherein said database thread identifies and then executes said transactions requests asynchronously;

20   11.   An apparatus according to claim **1**, wherein said queued transactions requests are removed from said database request queue once the said database transaction they respectively define is accomplished.

12.   A method of updating data in a database, having persistent

25   copies of objects that control processing steps, wherein

a database application makes modifications to transient copies of said persistent objects;

a database thread generates database transaction requests in response to said modifications; and

5   said requests are processed at a lower priority than said modifications.

13.   A method according to claim 12, wherein said database is stored locally or distributed over a network to remote nodes;

10   14.   A method according to claim 12, wherein said database is transaction-oriented;

15.   A method according to claim 12, wherein said database thread includes an object cache manager;

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16.   A method according to claim 15, wherein said object cache manager creates said transient copies in a transient object cache according to permission from a Permit Manager;

20   17.   A method according to claim 12, wherein said modifications to transient copies of said persistent objects are amendments implemented locally or remotely on said transient copies;

18.   A method according to claim 12, wherein transient objects are

25   stored in the main memory of a local or remote database client system or a plurality thereof;

24

19.   A method according to claim **12**, wherein said database thread is a low priority thread;

5   20.   A method according to claim **12**, wherein said object cache manager queues transactions corresponding to amendments of said transient copies in a database request queue as transaction requests;

21.   A method according to claim **20**, wherein said database
10   thread identifies and then executes said transactions requests asynchronously;

22.   A method according to claim **12**, wherein said queued transactions requests are removed from said database request queue once
15   the said database transaction they respectively define is accomplished.

23.   A computer-readable medium having computer-readable instructions executable by a computer such that, when executing said instructions, a computer will perform the steps of:
20   making modifications to transient copies of persistent objects that control processing steps;

generating database transaction requests in response to said modifications; and

processing said requests at a lower priority than said modifications.

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24. A computer-readable memory system having computer-readable data stored therein, comprising

transient copies of persistent objects that control processing steps;

a database thread defining successive data updating processes;

5   a database request queue for the purpose of indexing said successive data updating processes; and

program instructions to implement said data updating processes.

25. A computer-readable memory system according to claim **24**,

10   wherein said program instructions are configured to update objects in a database which has persistent copies of objects that control processing steps.